found to be 71.72%. The high moisture content in viviparous fruits before ripening might be the reason for the viviparous germination.

Kulkarni and Pandey (1976) pointed out that humidity was the main reason for viviparous germination in *Livistona chinensis*. In the present case also, the moisture content was higher in ovaries of viviparous fruits than in ovaries of fruits whose seeds were dormant. The increase in moisture content before ripening might be the reason for viviparous germination in *Artocarpus heterophyllus*. The roots of viviparous seedlings produced a thick dense mat of rootlets in fleshy ovary around the seed and made it useless for consumption because of its bitter taste.

The frequency of viviparous germination was high (19/100 fruits) in fruits harvested after ripening, and was low (4/100 fruits) in fruits harvested before ripening. So early harvesting of fruits before ripening can reduce the damage of fruits by viviparous germination of their seeds.

I thank Prof. R. Bothi, Head of the Department of Botany, Vivekananda College, Agasteeswaram for references and suggestions.

June 15, 1996

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28. *CEROPEGIA BULBOSA* VAR. *LUSHII* (GRAH.) HOOK. F.: A NEW FOOD PLANT FOR PLAIN TIGER BUTTERFLY *DANAUS CHRYSIPPUS* (LINN.)

While carrying out the survey of genus *Ceropegia* (Linn.) Family *Asclepiadaceae* on 15th September, 1995, at Appachi Wadi near Kolhapur in Maharashtra, we found an egg of a butterfly on the undersurface of the leaf of a *Ceropegia bulbosa* var. *lushii* (Grah.) Hook.f. We collected the egg and brought it to Mumbai along with the food plant. The larva hatched out on 17th September, 1995. It fed upon the leaves of *C. bulbosa* var. *lushii* It pupated on 26.ix.95 and on 4.x.95, an adult of the Plain tiger *Danaus chrysippus* (Linn.) emerged from the pupa.

C. bulbosa var. *lushii* is a xerophytic plant. The leaves are long, linear, thick and fleshy. *D. chrysippus* is mainly found in open country and is less common in damp, forested hilly regions (Wynter-Blyth, 1982). Earlier, Pennington (1978) had recorded *Ceropegia* sp. as one of the food plants of *D. chrysippus* in Ackery and Vane-Wright (1984).

We acknowledge our sincere thanks to Dr. S.R. Yadav, Shivaji University, Kolhapur who helped us in spotting the plant.

December 21, 1995

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